

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE ACT OF 2016

SPEECH OF

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bipartisan measure to provide a five year authorization for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative provides federal, state, tribal, and local officials with one more tool to protect the Great Lakes.

Through it, we are helping in the fight to keep the Asian Carp out of the Great Lakes.

Through it, tons of contaminated sediments have been removed and will no longer pose a threat to the public or the environment. Waterways that were once closed to boaters, fishermen, and the public are being revitalized and reborn.

Through it, we are working to improve habitat for wildlife. This week in my district, the Army Corps and Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District will announce the completion of an Ecosystem Restoration Project funded with GLRI funds. The project ripped out 2,900 feet of concrete channel in the Menominee River, restoring natural riverbed and opening up over 37 miles and 125 acres of upstream wetlands for spawning by various fish species.

Through it, three formally designed areas of concerns—because they contain highly contaminated and toxic sediments—have been delisted in the region.

Investing in protecting the Great Lakes make both economic and environmental sense. This basin is a drinking water source for tens of millions. When much of our nation and the world is fighting over water and trying to figure out how to address shortages or diminishing water resources, we would be foolish not to protect this national treasure.

This investment also benefits the economy and job creation in the region and the nation. Look no further than Milwaukee where water related businesses, universities, and other stakeholders are working to take advantage of our region's proximity to the largest body of freshwater and a strong university research base, including the nation's only freshwater school of science to attract water related entrepreneurs and small businesses to the area.

The Milwaukee Water Council, a nonprofit organization with over 180 members, which links water technology companies, water entrepreneurs, academic researchers and water professionals is hard at work turning our region's advantages, including our city's location on Lake Michigan, into creating jobs and economic development that will benefit the city and region. We need to protect the Great Lakes.

I want to thank the leadership of the Committee for making this bill a priority. Chairman SHUSTER, Ranking Member DEFAZIO, your leadership is much appreciated. I also want to

applaud my colleagues from the region, including Congresswoman KAPTUR, on both sides of the aisle who keenly understand why we need to support this legislation.

I support this bill and urge my colleagues to vote for it.

HONORING THE LIFE OF STEVE W. CRANDALL

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Steve W. Crandall, who passed away peacefully surrounded by family and friends on November 24, 2015. Steve served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War on the USS *Sperry*. After his service, Steve met his first wife Carol and they had two sons together, Steven and Shane. In 1976, Steve married his lifelong partner Cathy. Together, they raised Michael, Steven, and Scot.

Steve loved sports and being outdoors. Steve enjoyed fishing, hunting, boating and camping with his family. Steve played softball, bowled in leagues and won a couple golf tournaments through Raley's. Steve enjoyed volunteering his time coaching little league and always encouraged his boys in sports.

Through the years, Steve worked hard for his family. Steve worked for the Retail Clerks Union for over 20 years, was a co-owner of Aqua Magic, a carpet cleaning and restoration business and a garbage man with Recology until he was diagnosed with diabetes in 1999. Steve had many medical struggles through the rest of his years but he was always happy to see you and his positive personality was impossible to miss.

Steve's sanctuary was at the golf course. Thereafter, he worked at Green Tree Golf Club for approximately 12 years. Steve cherished his time there. Whether it was spending time with his friends, driving his beloved dog Sam around in the cart, teaching his sons and grandsons how to golf, or of course, working on the Course, he loved every day.

Steve always wanted to make you smile. We will miss his "slightly exaggerated" stories and his tall tales. We will miss the way he lit up a room when he walked in. We will miss his kind and generous heart.

Steve was preceded in death by his parents Glen and Iva Lee Crandall. Steve is survived by his loving wife Cathy, his sons Michael, Steve, Scot, Shane and their families. Sister Debbe Allen, four nieces and their families, as well as a dear "Papa" to nine Grandchildren.

GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE ACT

HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the United States House of Representatives for the passing of H.R. 223, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2015, which authorizes the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative through Fiscal Year 2020 at \$300 million per year. This initiative continues to perform vital work to combat the influx of invasive species, restore polluted habitats, and clean up areas where significant harm has been caused by human activity; also known as Areas of Concern. H.R. 223 is a commonsense, non-partisan bill that creates jobs, restores communities, and boosts small businesses in the Great Lakes region.

Beginning in 2010, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative has been working hard to protect and preserve the largest freshwater system in the world. I would like to thank my dear friend Mr. DAVID JOYCE for leading this legislation to provide long-term stability for the protection and restoration of our beautiful Great Lakes, which are home to over 1.5 million jobs and more than thirty-five hundred plants and animals.

This initiative has made a significant impact in the 8th District of Minnesota; specifically, the St. Louis River, which is one of the largest Areas of Concerns in the Great Lakes Basin. With the support of federal and state agencies involved, this Area of Concern is making incredible progress.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Congress for passing this vital piece of legislation to provide long-term stability to our Great Lakes region and I commend the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative for all of the important work it does.

CONGRATULATING THE AIRBUS TEAM IN MOBILE ON DELIVERY OF FIRST A321

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the determined men and women who work at the Airbus assembly facility in Mobile, Alabama, on the successful delivery of the first Alabama-built A321 to JetBlue.

I had the honor of attending the special delivery ceremony in Mobile on Monday, April 25th, to celebrate this momentous achievement and share our appreciation with those who made the aircraft a reality.

The ceremony was marked with a football theme. The marching band and cheerleaders from the University of South Alabama helped lead the crowd in cheers. The visiting dignitary

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

sitting next to me asked about the theme, and I informed him that we take great pride in football down in Alabama.

I then informed him that the same amount of pride we take in our football teams, along with a ton of hard work, is put into the construction of the A321 aircraft. The men and women who work for Airbus recognize how monumental this moment is for the Mobile community, the State of Alabama, and the entire United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident we will be building these aircraft in Mobile for many years to come, and I am so excited about the future of aviation in Southwest Alabama. So, on behalf of my constituents in Alabama's First Congressional District, I want to congratulate Airbus and all of their hardworking employees on this impressive achievement.

CELEBRATING LIONS CLUBS
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT DR.
JITSUHIRO YAMADA'S LEADERSHIP

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Jitsuihiro Yamada, President of Lions Clubs International, the world's largest service organization, for his many years of outstanding service and dedication. Dr. Yamada was elected by his peers in June 2015 to facilitate the work of 1.4 million Lions Clubs International members in over 200 countries and territories. Working with over 46,000 clubs, Dr. Yamada promotes an international effort to aid the blind and visually impaired, champion youth initiatives, and strengthen local communities through hands-on service and humanitarian projects.

As a member of the Lakeville Lions Club in Indiana, I have seen the impact Lions Clubs can have on local communities. They work to promote the principles of responsible government and good citizenship by uniting individuals from all walks of life with a mission to foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world. As President of Lions Clubs International, Dr. Yamada is the very embodiment of those ideals.

The world truly owes a great deal of respect and gratitude to incredible individuals like Dr. Yamada who have dedicated their lives to working for the common good. His commitment to improving the state of our world inspires many, facilitating the service of dedicated and passionate individuals across the globe.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in celebration of Dr. Yamada's leadership and continued accomplishments. His work brings communities together, strengthening our collective resolve.

CONGRATULATING THE MAINE
TROOP GREETERS ON WEL-
COMING HOME 1,500,000 AMERICAN
HEROES

HON. BRUCE POLIQUIN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. POLIQUIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Maine Troop Greeters on recently welcoming home our 1,500,000th American hero.

I want to applaud and thank each one of these incredible individuals for their important, inspirational work to personally greet each American soldier—including hundreds of our canine heroes—when they return to U.S. soil through the Bangor International Airport, regardless of the time of day or night they arrive home.

Many of us remember the disgraceful treatment our brave servicemen received upon their arrival home from Vietnam. Thanks to the Maine Troop Greeter's incredible dedication, every military member now deployed overseas is welcomed back the way they deserve—with a friendly Maine face and heartfelt words expressing our Nation's great gratitude for their selfless service and joy for their safe homecoming.

I am privileged to be an honorary Maine Troop Greeter and to represent these incredible men and women in the United States Congress. I was also honored to invite Troop Greeter and American hero Norm Rossignol as my special guest at this year's State of the Union. America is the greatest country in the world because of patriots like these selfless individuals.

Again, I want to congratulate the amazing men and women of the Maine Troop Greeters on reaching this incredible 1.5 million troop milestone and I look forward to joining them again soon. God Bless America and God Bless the Maine Troop Greeters.

GERARDO BARAJAS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Gerardo Barajas for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Gerardo Barajas is a 12th grader at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Gerardo Barajas is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Gerardo Barajas for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF MATTHEW
GARY, SAMUEL BORICK, AND
JULIA FONTANA AS HONORABLE
MENTION WINNERS OF THE 2016
NATIONAL C-SPAN STUDENT
CAM VIDEO CONTEST

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Matthew Gary, Samuel Borick, and Julia Fontana, who participated in the 2016 National C-Span Student Cam Video Contest. The five-minute entry entitled "2016: The Race to Protect the Environment" earned them an honorable mention.

The team created the documentary to emphasize why environmental policy should be at the forefront of 2016's political debates. The team met with qualified individuals such as environmental advocate Peter Iwanowicz, environmental policy expert Barry Rabe, and the Honorable ROBERT CASEY, Jr., a United States Senator from Pennsylvania. Through these interviews, they explored why environmental issues are neglected by politicians and why public officials and aspirants at the highest level should make them a priority.

As many of my colleagues know, I am a passionate advocate for the environment. I believe preserving our natural, recreational, and cultural resources is an environmental, as well as an economic, imperative. I am impressed by these young people and their contribution to the national dialogue. Like them, I believe we need to take steps to ensure our environment is in good hands for future generations.

It is an honor to recognize the achievement of Matthew Gary, Samuel Borick, and Julia Fontana. May they continue to strive for excellence in their education and be good stewards of our planet.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for votes on Wednesday, April 27, 2016. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on roll call votes 166 and 167, "nay" on roll call votes 168 and 169, "yea" on roll call vote 170, "nay" on roll call vote 171, and "yea" on roll call vote 172.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I was at the White House to discuss criminal justice reform and I was unable to return in time for roll call votes 170, 171, and 172. Had I been here, I would have voted Yes to 170, Ms. Waters Amendment; No to 171, Final Passage; and Yes to 172, on the Defend Trade Secrets Act.

COLLEEN OWENS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Colleen Owens for her award of Colorado's 2016 High School Principal of the Year. The Colorado Association of School Executives (CASE) and a committee of her peers from the Colorado Association of Secondary School Principals (CASSP) chose Principal Owens for this award.

For over five years Principal Owens has passionately worked to be a positive influence in the lives of students, teachers, parents and our community. She has sought to eliminate and improve upon many of the issues the school was facing, including a drastically decreasing enrollment of nearly 100 students per year. Her tireless efforts to help establish a firm sense of community to "RamNation" (as the school community is called) have helped to stabilize and reach new levels of engagement and achievement. She was also instrumental in bringing the one-of-a-kind Academy Program—which offers courses ranging from engineering, health, business, performing arts, global studies, and more—to help students prepare for college and other career opportunities.

Principal Owens's roots are deep within Green Mountain School. An alumna herself, she has served diverse roles at Green Mountain High School including student, teacher and assistant principal. In addition to supporting student success through the Academy model, Principal Owens promotes strong instruction and teacher development through Professional Learning Communities. Beyond her role in leading both students and staff, Owens has worked vigorously to strengthen the school's communication.

To say she is an accomplished administrator is an understatement. Principal Owens' dedication and enthusiasm for education is reflected in her exemplary contributions to the profession. I extend my deepest thanks to Principal Owens for her service to the students of Green Mountain High School. Thank you for your continuous dedication to education and to our local community.

IN RECOGNITION OF WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize April 28 as Workers' Memorial Day, and to honor the men and women around the world who have suffered injuries or lost their lives in the workplace.

In Connecticut, the unions of the AFL-CIO are observing Workers' Memorial Day today with ceremonies on the steps of our State Capitol in Hartford and at the Workers Memorial in the Town of Groton's Washington Park.

Last Saturday was the 29th anniversary of one of the worst workplace disasters in Connecticut's history. On April 23, 1987,

L'Ambiance Plaza, a 16-story building under construction in Bridgeport, collapsed. Twenty-eight construction workers lost their lives.

This disaster was preventable, and it was a wakeup call for Connecticut—and for our nation—that we can never afford to take workplace safety for granted. We've made some progress in the three decades since the L'Ambiance Plaza tragedy, but in the United States, 13 workers still die on the job during an average workday.

In Connecticut, 33 men and women died due to workplace accidents in 2014. That's more than two workers every month, just in my state, who don't return home to their loved ones at the end of a shift.

Nearly half of these men and women worked in the construction, transportation, and warehousing industries—industries that sustain thousands of Connecticut jobs. These workers are powering the economy of our state and of the nation, and we have a responsibility to keep them safe.

Today, on Workers' Memorial Day, we honor the memories and sacrifices of the thousands of men and women throughout the world who have been injured or lost their lives while doing their job.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF DIANNA MARIE HEGEDUIS ON THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF HER PASSING

HON. JOSEPH J. HECK

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. HECK of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dianna Marie Hegeduis for her service to the state of Nevada.

Dianna was a resident of Las Vegas for 35 years and passed away on May 6, 2011, just five years ago.

A 1992 graduate of UNLV, Dianna pursued a legal education at Brigham Young University before returning to Nevada to start her career.

In her professional life, Dianna served as the executive director and general counsel for the Nevada Board of Osteopathic Medicine, where she worked to help improve access to medical care for Nevada residents in rural areas.

She also served as the Chief Deputy Attorney for the State of Nevada under Attorney General Brian Sandoval, arguing and winning several key cases before the Nevada Supreme Court.

But it was in her spare time serving as a community volunteer where Dianna made the most lasting impact on those around her.

She mentored young attorneys and helped them with job placements.

She served as a volunteer judge for high school debate competitions.

She was active in assisting members of our senior citizen community with their everyday needs.

Dianna Marie Hegeduis was an exemplary Las Vegas and Nevadan, and it is my great honor to join with her friends and family today to memorialize her dedication to the Silver State.

CELEBRATING FORT LUPTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Fort Lupton Middle School for its recognition as an Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) National Demonstration school and an AVID School of Distinction, as well as for winning the coveted Game Plan for Success Award.

These merits are most deserved. Staying true to their motto, "Every Student, Every Day, Achieves and Learns," the students, teachers, and administration of Fort Lupton have dedicated themselves to the pursuit of education and the pursuit of college and career readiness.

If you walk through Fort Lupton, you will see data from the latest benchmark exams displayed throughout the building, celebrating success and conveying the need to work hard and aim high. It is because of the school's commitment to hard work and data-driven teaching that they have earned the prestigious Game Plan for Success Award. To honor this achievement, U.S. Women's National Soccer Star Megan Rapinoe presented the school with the \$5,000 prize and shared with the students tips for success in and out of the classroom.

Today, I also honor the principal of Fort Lupton Middle School, Candace Kensinger. Ms. Kensinger has shown incredible leadership and her passion for education is an inspiration for students and educators alike.

Mr. Speaker, I send my sincerest congratulations to the entire Fort Lupton Middle School community. Their academic success serves as an example throughout Colorado and the United States of America.

CHAZ VIGIL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Chaz Vigil for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Chaz Vigil is a 12th grader at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Chaz Vigil is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Chaz Vigil for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

CELEBRATING PAY IT FORWARD
DAY IN KENTUCKY

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Pay It Forward Day in Kentucky, as declared by Governor Matt Bevin to be recognized on April 28, 2016. I commend community, state and national leaders alike for promoting the spirit of goodwill and neighborly kindness through this nationwide effort.

Whereas, the aim of the Pay It Forward concept is to promote community spirit through acts of kindness;

Whereas, Pay It Forward Day is a worldwide effort being supported by people in more than 70 countries on six continents;

Whereas, Pay It Forward Day encourages people to do good deeds for others without asking for anything in return except for the recipients to pay it forward to others in need; and

Whereas, together we can make a difference by creating positive change in our community and world—one good deed at a time.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage the Kentucky delegation, along with my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to continue personal efforts to “Pay It Forward” with simple acts of kindness in their own congressional districts across the country.

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA
CUNNINGHAM

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Barbara Cunningham of Shenandoah, Iowa, for her upcoming retirement from the NEA on August 31st, 2016. For 35 years, Barbara served our community, and state as an educator in the Shenandoah Community School District, and an additional six years on the NEA-Retired Board of Directors.

Barbara has dedicated her life to teaching and enriching the lives of young people, and began her journey as a teacher right after completing her education. Barbara found the Shenandoah Community School District was the best fit for her as a physical education (PE) instructor. The supplies and facilities were limited—Barbara describes the original gym as the size of a tractor trailer—yet Barbara made the best of it, as most of our teachers do, and focused on teaching her kids with what they had. Her positive attitude and dedication to her students left a lasting impact that cannot be measured.

For the last six years, Barbara has served on the NEA-Retired Board of Directors. She is a dedicated public servant who, even after retiring from teaching, continued to do more to help our youth and communities.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Barbara today as she approaches her retirement. Her expertise and hard work will be

sorely missed by her colleagues and all those she has worked with over the years. I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Barbara for her nearly 40 years of dedicated service and in wishing her nothing but continued success in her retirement.

REMARKS IN HONOR OF THE
SERVICE OF COLONEL DAVID
HAMILTON

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY III

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service of Colonel David Hamilton, of the United States Army for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to our nation. Colonel Hamilton was born in Kingston, Jamaica and grew up in Holliston, Massachusetts. He began his career in the Army in 1984 after receiving a nomination to attend West Point from my great-uncle, the late Senator Edward Kennedy. Colonel Hamilton was commissioned as a Field Artilleryman upon graduation from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1988.

Throughout his military career, his many assignments included serving as a Platoon Leader during Operation Desert Shield/Storm and then Company Fire Support Officer in the 82nd Airborne Division. As a Captain, Colonel Hamilton commanded two batteries and deployed his unit to Bosnia in support of Operation Joint Guard. After battery command, he served as an Instructor at the School of Artillery in Puckapunyal, Australia.

Upon his return, Colonel Hamilton served in the 2nd of the Army's two Stryker brigades while at Fort Lewis before becoming the Mission Commander, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Detachment-San Francisco from 2004 to 2006. He then departed for Korea where he commanded a Field Artillery Paladin battalion in the Army's 2nd Infantry Division before deploying to Iraq to serve as an Analyst and Deputy Director in the Multi-National Corps-Iraq Commander's Initiatives Group at Camp Victory, Iraq from 2008 to 2009.

After concluding his deployment in Iraq, Colonel Hamilton was the Chief of the Training and Evaluation Division for the Brigade Modernization Command at Ft. Bliss, TX, before commanding the 212th Fires Brigade in the Army's 1st Armored Division from August 2011 to July 2013.

From July 1st, 2014 to April 29th, 2016 Colonel Hamilton served as the Chief of the Army House Liaison Division, fostering a strategic partnership with both the 113th and 114th Congress and working tirelessly to navigate the complex issues the Army faced during the last two legislative cycles.

With every deployment and every assignment, Colonel Hamilton brought unparalleled leadership and unquestioned commitment to the men and women serving beside him.

While he never sought recognition, he has earned numerous military awards for his accomplishments, including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the NATO Medal, the Senior Parachutist Badge, the Ranger Tab, and British Jump Wings.

In light of his achievements, the Army has assigned him to serve next as an Assistant Division Commander in the historic 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, GA.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize Colonel David Hamilton's successful and decorated career as he and his family proceed to their next chapter. We are a nation grateful for the military service of the men, women, and families who sacrifice in defense of our freedom. I wish Colonel Hamilton and his family the best.

CODY FLOORING AND TILE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Cody Flooring and Tile for receiving the Golden Rotary Ethics in Business Award.

The Ethics in Business Award was established by the Golden Rotary to honor for profit and non-profit businesses. The recipients of this award must maintain integrity, conviction and possess high ethical standards, demonstrated by treatment of customers, employees, community and the environment.

Cody Flooring and Tile is a staple of the Golden community and has built its brand on a foundation of exceptional service and loyal relationships with customers. Steve Barrow founded the company out of his garage in Golden in 1996. While Steve is still president and the business remains based in Golden, the company has transformed, creating jobs, moving into a beautiful headquarters and expanding business to six states. This year, Cody Flooring and Tile celebrates 20 successful years of business, and I have no doubt they will find success in the next 20 years.

To Steve and all the employees of Cody Flooring and Tile, congratulations on receiving the Golden Rotary Ethics in Business Award, and thank you for all you do for the Golden community.

COMMENDING DR. ANDREW W.
GURMAN, FOR BEING ELECTED
PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Dr. Andrew W. Gurman on his inauguration as President of the American Medical Association on June 14th, 2016.

A native of New York, Dr. Gurman received his medical degree from the State University of New York Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, in 1980. He served his surgical internship in Bronx, New York, completing and following his passion for hand surgery at the Hospital for Joint Disease Orthopedic Institute in New York City.

In addition to his career as an orthopedic hand surgeon in Altoona, Pennsylvania, Dr. Gurman has served as the speaker and vice speaker of the AMA House of Delegates for

eight years, a member of the Pennsylvania delegation for 20 years, a congressional contact for PAMED, and member on the American Society for Surgery of the Hand's Council on Government Relations.

Fortunately for our community, Dr. Gurman's achievements are not limited to his medical involvement, as he has also served as a professional chair for the United Way campaign, and a member of the board of trustees of the Altoona Symphony Orchestra.

It is with great pleasure that I highlight Dr. Gurman's inauguration to the presidency of the American Medical Association and commend him for his capacity to serve the 9th Congressional District in so many ways. I have no doubt he will continue to make an impact on our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD L. HANNA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Number 171 on H.R. 4498, I am not recorded because I was absent for personal reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye.

HONORING MR. BOB EPLING

HON. CARLOS CURBELO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Bob Epling as he retires from his post as Chairman and CEO of Community Bank, a bank created with the intentions of being owned and operated by the community. Mr. Epling, who held his post since 1977, has always pushed the limits of what it means to be a business owner, and has used his means to serve the community. He has been acknowledged countless times for his service to the South Florida community, including his most recent recognition for excellence in community service by the Dade County Farm Bureau.

Mr. Epling has always been firmly rooted in the South Florida community, evident through his role as President of the Florida Bankers Association and Orange Bowl Committee, as well as Chairman of the 1996 South Florida Olympic Soccer Organizing Committee. He also served as the Chairman of the Board of the International Hurricane Research Center for 20 years. In that role, Mr. Epling worked tirelessly to advance research for mitigating storm damage, which he witnessed firsthand when assisting with rebuilding efforts in Homestead after Hurricane Andrew.

It is an honor for me to recognize Mr. Bob Epling on the occasion of his retirement for all of his service to the community of South Florida for more than three decades.

FOOTHILLS ANIMAL SHELTER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the Foothills Animal Shelter for receiving the Golden Rotary Ethics in Business Award.

The Ethics in Business Award was established by the Golden Rotary to honor for profit and non-profit businesses. The recipients of this award must maintain integrity, conviction and possess high ethical standards, demonstrated by treatment of customers, employees, community and the environment.

Since its creation in 1976, the Foothills Animal Shelter (then known as the Jefferson Animal Center) has dedicated itself to providing the best possible care for every animal that comes through its doors. The organization cares for more than 9,500 animals every year and never turns an orphaned animal away. With the completion of its 33,000 square foot facility in 2010, the organization significantly improved care by adding a new medical suite to offer more on-site, cost-effective care and increasing the number of spays and neuters.

Congratulations to the Foothills Animal Shelter for receiving this well-deserved honor by the Golden Rotary, and thank you to all the employees for their continued commitment to our community and the animals they serve.

TRIBUTE TO MR. MICHAEL S. WILSON, PRESIDENT, GD-OTS

HON. DAVID W. JOLLY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a gentleman who has dedicated his life to serving our nation—a true American leader and hero who hails from the state of Florida, Mr. Michael S. Wilson. Mike is retiring from General Dynamics Ordnance and Tactical Systems (GD-OTS) after forty-seven years of service to our warfighters and the defense industry. He currently serves as president of GD-OTS, a position he has held since 2001.

Mike has distinguished himself throughout his career, most notably by developing and fielding over 15 programs to our armed forces. The latest example of Mike's leadership is the fielding of the Ground Mobility Vehicle 1.1 program to the US Special Operations Command (USSOCOM).

Mike led the highly successful merger of GD Armament and Technical Products (GDATP) and GD-OTS companies in 2013—resulting in present day GD-OTS. His efforts created significant synergy savings and efficiencies that directly benefitted GD-OTS customers and shareholders resulting in improved service to the customer. Under Mike's astute and hands-on leadership, GD-OTS revenue rose over 500 percent since acquisition in 2001. Mike created a persistent priority and focuses on safety across GD-OTS and accumulated an unparalleled safety record by any industry standards.

One of Mike's proudest career achievements can be framed by the performance of

OTS during the urgent ramp-up required to meet surging demand of Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom (OIF/OEF). Virtually overnight, Mike oversaw the ramp-up of all GD-OTS production lines to provide ammunition when it was needed the most.

During his career at GD, Mike led the effort to grow GD-OTS' organic production capabilities. With deft precision and timing, Mike skillfully invested in facility expansion and organic capabilities to achieve strategic vertical integration. This resulted in a dramatic expansion of core competencies and several new production franchises for GD-OTS.

Mr. Speaker, the Munitions Industrial Base, commercial industry, and each branch of our Armed Forces will miss Mike Wilson's leadership. As a nation, let us recognize his intrepid service and dedication to the mission of supporting our warfighters. And I ask that this body join me in honoring and congratulating Mr. Mike S. Wilson on a most honorable, truly energetic, and innovative career.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "INVESTING IN AMERICA'S SMALL BUSINESSES ACT OF 2016"

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Investing in America's Small Businesses Act of 2016. This important legislation allows Community Development Financial Institutions, known as CDFIs, to extend affordable credit to more small businesses in underserved communities through microloans. These small loans, under \$50,000, give businesses working capital, help them invest in new equipment or supplies, and have no pre-payment penalties.

I'm proud that the Investing in America's Small Business Act has gained the endorsements of the CDFI Coalition and the National Federation of Community Development Credit Unions, the national voices for these community-based institutions.

The bill provides grants for CDFIs to establish loan-loss reserve funds for microloans, which will help CDFIs leverage private investment to expand small business lending in underserved communities.

Small businesses are critical engines of economic development and job creation. In underserved communities, however, small businesses with low-income and minority owners often have limited access to affordable credit they need to meet everyday demands or expand their operations. According to a study commissioned by the U.S. Small Business Administration in 2013, "the major constraint limiting the growth, expansion, and wealth creation of small firms—especially women- and minority-owned businesses—is inadequate capital."

Community Development Financial Institutions serve exactly these communities—with great success and economic benefit. In fact, a 2014 report by the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia found that despite serving predominately low-income markets, CDFI banks and credit unions had virtually the same level of performance as mainstream financial institutions. Despite this demonstrated

success, CDFIs often lack the capital to meet the needs of many promising small businesses.

Recently, private sector financial institutions have stepped in to assist CDFIs in their mission to provide affordable, responsible lending to underserved communities. This month, JP Morgan Chase announced a five-year, \$125 million investment in CDFIs, building upon a pilot program which allowed 26 CDFIs to raise more than \$226 million—seven times JPMorgan's initial grant—and make \$100 million in loans, finance the preservation and development of over 2,000 units of affordable housing, and lend to over 130 small businesses.

These efforts are commendable, but private sector investments are not enough to address the significant need for small business credit in underserved communities. Research shows that minority-owned businesses typically encounter higher borrowing costs, receive smaller loans and see their loan applications rejected more often. CDFIs are well-placed to provide access to affordable credit through microloans to struggling small businesses and entrepreneurs in underserved communities.

Let's give small businesses in underserved areas the tools they need to create jobs and develop their communities. I am pleased to introduce this bill, and urge my colleagues to join in support.

WILLIAM VOVAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud William Vovan for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

William Vovan is a 12th grader at Northglenn High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by William Vovan is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to William Vovan for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, due to an electronic mishap, I voted incorrectly on H.R. 4498, the Helping Angels Lead Our Startups (HALOS). I had intended to vote yea on roll call vote 171 on passage of the HALOS Act.

HONORING THE CITY OF LEXINGTON ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT FOR EARNING A RELIABLE PUBLIC POWER PROVIDER PLATINUM DESIGNATION FROM THE AMERICAN PUBLIC POWER ASSOCIATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Lexington Electrical Department for earning a "Platinum" Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3) designation from the American Public Power Association (APPA). The "Platinum" RP3 designation establishes the Lexington Electrical Department, located in Lexington, North Carolina, as one of the most reliable and high-quality public power providers in the nation.

For the past seven years, the City of Lexington Electrical Department has been recognized by the APPA as an industry leader with a "Gold" level designation. However, with this "Platinum" designation, the Lexington Electrical Department joins an elite group of only 29 utility providers nationwide that have earned this impressive distinction. In order to be recognized as a "Platinum" provider, the provider must earn a score between 90 and 98 percent of the possible points across all scoring metrics used by the APPA. The City of Lexington accomplished this goal by excelling in the four RP3 disciplines established by the APPA: reliability, safety, workforce development, and system improvement.

The Lexington Electrical Department has become a recognized leader not only in the state of North Carolina, but across the entire country. Their innovative workforce training programs should serve as an example of how to prepare employees to meet the ever-growing demands of the 21st century. They have also demonstrated an unwavering commitment to providing high-quality services to the people of Lexington by engaging in public-service projects like the proactive tree trimming project, resulting in a significantly reduced number of power outages during this year's winter storm season. The people of Lexington should be comforted to know their utility needs are being provided by one of the finest utility departments in the entire nation, and should be proud of the staff at the Lexington Electrical Department who worked so hard to earn this distinguished honor.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating the hardworking members of the City of Lexington Electrical Department for earning the American Public Power Association's "Platinum" Reliable Public Power Provider designation.

ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONGRESSIONAL HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES CAUCUS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the one year

anniversary of the Congressional Historically Black Colleges and Universities Caucus, established last April by Reps. ALMA ADAMS (D-NC) and BRADLEY BYRNE (R-AL).

For over 170 years, our Historically Black Colleges and Universities have been at the forefront of preparing our nation's youth for a bright path and successful future. HBCUs have profoundly changed the American economic and social climate. They have changed the face of this nation and have opened the door for generations of African-American students. There are over 300,000 diverse students across the United States attending HBCUs today. Those and the millions of HBCU alumni are a testament to the importance of these institutions to America.

In 2008, I co-founded and co-chaired the first bipartisan Congressional HBCU Caucus with Reps. JAMES CLYBURN (D-SC) and JOHN DUNCAN (R-TN). Expanding federal opportunities for HBCUs and Predominantly Black Institutions (PBIs), expanding dialogue in Congress, and upholding the traditions of these institutions are shared goals of mine and of the members who currently lead the caucus. I am proud to represent Paul Quinn College, which has provided their students with the tools to be successful leaders for over 130 years.

For much of their history, HBCUs opened the door to educational opportunities and career possibilities otherwise inaccessible to African-Americans. Over the past 50 years we have seen a modernization of that mission. Each year thousands of academically disadvantaged students graduate high school behind many of their peers. Many of these college-bound students graduated at the top of their class, yet did not have access to the rigorous coursework that would prepare them for higher education.

HBCUs offer the personalized attention and support to foster success in these students. They are paving the way for future scientists, engineers and doctors who may have otherwise been lost in the system. It is this chain of support that makes our nation's HBCUs so invaluable to America and the thousands of students who meet their potential under their guidance.

I am pleased that we are able to continue this dialogue in a meaningful way and I urge more members to join the Congressional HBCU Caucus.

TAYLOR NORMAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Taylor Norman for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Taylor Norman is a 12th grader at Thornton High and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Taylor Norman is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Mayor Norman for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$19,218,673,186,359.42. We've added \$8,591,796,137,446.34 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

IN TRIBUTE TO REVEREND
TONGBER S. VANG

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Reverend Tongber S. Vang who passed away on February 21, 2016 at the age of 51. Tongber S. Vang was born in Sanau, Laos and was the eldest of 7 children. Tongber Vang immigrated to the United States at the age of 12, after living in refugee camps of Thailand with his family for a number of years. He lived first in Little Rock, Arkansas and eventually moved to Milwaukee and lived with his grandmother, Mao Xiong. He graduated from Milwaukee's West Division High School and attended Milwaukee Area Technical College with the intention of following a career in dentistry.

Tongber met Pa at Hmong New Year Celebration; he knew immediately she was the woman he would marry. He was touched by Pa's Christian faith and she encouraged his growth with Christ that led him to the ministry. On July 4, 1986, Tongber and Pa were married, and immersed themselves in the ministry, teaching Sunday school for children at Northwest Baptist Church. After Pa graduated from high school in 1988, they both attended and graduated from Hannibal-LaGrange College in Hannibal, Missouri. After graduation, Tongber and Pa moved to Louisville, KY where they both attended Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. They studied during the week but their weekends included a 6-hour commute to and from Lansing, MI to perform church outreach to the Hmong community and coordinate a children's Sunday school ministry.

Pastor Tongber moved his family back to Milwaukee in 1997 and accepted a position working for AmeriCorps, Vista Program at the Milwaukee Public Schools. He engaged Hmong parents and students at both South Division and Washington High Schools. In the fall of 1997, Pastor Tongber made the decision to accept the offer to pastor his home church, the Hmong First Baptist Church.

Pastor Tongber led his congregation with incredible grace, love, and passion for the word of God. However, his deepest passion was caring and praying with and over members of the church. He led a successful capital campaign which resulted in the construction of the current church building. The church was his second family; he believed with true conviction that if families were okay, the church would be okay, as would the community and the world. Pastor Tongber devoted countless hours to support church ministries and ensuring goals were met. In 2010, he led a mission trip to Nan, Thailand.

Pastor Tongber is survived by his beloved wife Pa, their three wonderful sons—Solomon, Josiah, and Joseph, a loving daughter-in-law—Joann, and a cheerful 13-month-old granddaughter Charity Siabzoo, and a yet-to-be-born granddaughter named Genessa Hnub Tshiab.

While Pastor Tongber's time on earth was short, guided fully by his faith in God, he served his family, church and his community selflessly. I was proud to call him a friend and was inspired by his good works. Mr. Speaker, this is why I rise to pay tribute to Tongber S. Vang, a true asset to the 4th Congressional District.

ORAN BAZEL JR.

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Oran Bazel Jr. for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Oran Bazel Jr. is a 12th grader at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Oran Bazel Jr. is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Oran Bazel Jr. for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF DR.
RUTH ELLEN WASEM ON HER
RETIREMENT FROM THE CON-
GRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERV-
ICE

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Ruth Ellen Wasem, a Specialist in Immigration Policy, will be retiring from the Congressional Research Service (CRS) at the end of this month. Dr. Wasem came to CRS in 1987 as an Analyst in Social Legislation, where she worked on

teenage pregnancy, youth policy, homelessness, and immigration policy. She eventually moved full-time into immigration policy, where she became a recognized and leading expert in the field. Dr. Wasem is a graduate of the University of Michigan, where she received a Ph.D. and M.A. in History. She completed her undergraduate degree at Muskingum College in New Concord, Ohio where she graduated Magna Cum Laude. Dr. Wasem was raised in Cadiz, Ohio.

Throughout her time at CRS, Dr. Wasem provided substantial legislative support to Members and Congressional staff who often turned to her for analysis, brainstorming, and consultation on various aspects of immigration and social welfare policy. Her work in these areas included assisting Congress with interpretations of current and proposed law, explaining agency operations, analyzing data, developing and analyzing legislative options, and comparing legislative proposals at various stages of the process. Dr. Wasem's work was used by Congress in hearings, legislative development, markups, and preconference negotiations.

Dr. Wasem's extensive knowledge in immigration policy and her keen ability to frame and analyze issues of paramount concern to Congress often made her a prominent point of contact for Congressional staff. Her encyclopedic knowledge of immigration law and policy was on display during the past decade when Congress attempted to pass comprehensive immigration reform legislation. Dr. Wasem provided an innovative view of the major categories of immigration issues and the key elements involved in reforming the nation's immigration system.

Dr. Wasem wrote numerous analytic and concise reports for Congress—well over 300 during her tenure at CRS. Dr. Wasem also contributed to the House Ways and Means Committee's Green Book. Her contribution to the Green Book consisted of high-level statistical analysis on nonimmigrant eligibility for public benefits.

Dr. Wasem was routinely chosen to moderate the immigration panels of CRS' biennial Legislative Issues and Procedures seminar for new Members in Williamsburg, Virginia. She also testified before Congressional committees numerous times throughout her tenure at CRS providing testimony on issues ranging from asylum to unauthorized migration to immigration and social policy data.

One of Dr. Wasem's most important contributions to CRS' work for Congress has been her leadership of the analysts, lawyers and information professionals who support Congressional consideration of immigration-related policy issues. As CRS' Immigration Team Leader, Dr. Wasem has been a mentor to her team members, as well as to Congressional staff. She unfailingly displayed great generosity and selflessness in devoting her time and energy to the issues of the day.

The Congressional Research Service has given Dr. Wasem a number of outstanding commendations and special achievement awards for legislative analysis in the areas of immigration policy, Haitian relief, health care reform, homeland security, temporary foreign workers, and welfare reform.

Dr. Wasem recently spent a year as a Kluge Staff Fellow at the Library of Congress where

she researched legislative efforts to end national origins and race-based immigrant admissions to the United States, all of which culminated in the Immigration Act of 1965. During her time as a Kluge Fellow, Dr. Wasem was awarded the Abba P. Schwartz Research Fellowship, which is administered by the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, to further her research in this area.

During her 29 years at CRS, and her 2 years of previous federal service, Dr. Wasem won the respect and admiration of her colleagues. Her steadfast dedication to serve Congress and her commitment to the highest standards of analytic, unbiased and timely response to Congressional requests for information and analysis have made a positive and lasting contribution to the Congressional policy discourse.

TRIBUTE TO DR. EARL "MARTY"
MARTIN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Dr. Earl "Marty" Martin, as he is inaugurated today April 28, 2016, as the 13th President of Iowa's largest private university, Drake University in Des Moines.

Dr. Martin began his presidency on July 1, 2015. A fourth-generation attorney, Dr. Martin served for eight years in the U.S. Air Force as a legal officer, honing his leadership and analytic skills. Later, he joined the Texas Wesleyan School of Law faculty as a visiting professor and eventually became Associate Dean of the institution. Most recently, Dr. Martin served as Executive Vice President of Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington.

His leadership philosophy is well-documented and so is his drive and focus to strengthen Drake University, its Drake neighborhood and emphasizing Drake University's standing as one of the nation's top 100 best values of private colleges.

Dr. Martin stated his greatest challenge as the new President, "I am never going to be wise enough. Wisdom is that combination of knowing the facts are occurring and being able to assess the choices. I always want to get better." Under his leadership, Drake University is continuing to grow and flourish.

Mr. Speaker, as a graduate and proud alumnus of Drake University, I am honored to represent Dr. Martin and Drake University in the United States Congress. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Dr. Martin on his inauguration and wishing him nothing but continued success.

STAR ROSAS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Star Rosas for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Star Rosas is a 12th grader at Westminster High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Star Rosas is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Star Rosas for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

AMERICA'S HBCUS

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus to celebrate and recognize the importance of educational opportunities that HBCU institutions create for thousands of young men and women from all walks of life.

As a member of the Bipartisan Congressional HBCU Caucus which promotes and protects the interest of HBCUs by:

creating a national dialogue,
educating Members of Congress and their staffs about the issues impacting HBCUs,
drafting meaningful bipartisan legislation to address the needs of HBCUs, and
supporting students and graduates of HBCUs by increasing access and career opportunities.

As Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, I am particularly concerned about the events of the last few weeks and months that highlight a national problem that involves the health and wellbeing of young African American boys and young men.

One important solution must be access to affordable quality education for every person in this nation.

I am proud to count Texas Southern University, as a constituent, a great HBCU—located in my home city of Houston.

I routinely partner with Texas Southern University to promote education opportunities and collaborate on community projects routinely.

I led the initiative to get Financial Aid Relief for the students and campus of Texas Southern University in the amount of \$13 plus million dollars.

I continue to keep the university community informed about major issues impacting citizens of the city of Houston, state of Texas.

Issues like Health Care, Economic Development, Education, and Social Security are of great importance to TSU academic programs.

I initiated the digitization projects for former U.S. Members of Congress Barbara Jordan and Mickey Leland who both have permanent archives at Texas Southern University.

I helped establish the Barbara Jordan Medallion to be awarded each year at a ceremony held at Texas Southern University to an individual who advocates for the community.

I also assisted with the establishment of several scholarship Endowments at Texas Southern University.

I created a partnership with Comcast at TSU's School of Communication, which offers scholarships, internships and in-kind marketing.

I established the Center for Transportation, Training and Research in TSU's College of Science, Engineering, and Technology.

On September 14, 1927, the Houston Public School Board agreed to fund the development of two junior colleges: one for whites and one for African-Americans.

On September 14, 1927, the Houston Public School Board provided \$2,800 in seed capital to form a Junior College for African American students.

The initial enrollment for the first summer was 300 students.

On June 1, 1951, the name of the school was changed from Texas State University for Negroes to Texas Southern University after students petitioned the state legislature to remove the phrase "for Negroes."

When the university opened its doors in September 1947, it had 2,300 students, two schools, one division and one college—the Law School, the Pharmacy School, the Vocational Division, and the College of Arts and Sciences.

In 1973, the 63rd Legislature designated Texas Southern University as a "special purpose" institution for urban programming, which added four more academic units:

the College of Education,
the School of Public Affairs,
the School of Communications and
the Weekend College.

Today, Texas Southern University offers bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs in the following academic colleges and schools:

the College of Liberal Arts and Behavioral Sciences;
the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences;
the College of Science and Technology;
the College of Education;
the Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs; the School of Communication;
the Thurgood Marshall School of Law;
the Jesse H. Jones School of Business;
the Thomas Freeman Honors College; and
the College of Continuing Education and the Graduate School.

Currently, Texas Southern University is staffed by approximately 1,000 faculty members and support personnel.

HBCU's have come a long way to be where they are today.

The most significant milestone for HBCU's was the 1954 Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. The Board of Education*.

Howard University School of Law graduates successfully argued against the constitutionality of "separate but equal," opening the door for greater access to resources for institutions dedicated to education was a critical step forward.

However, it was not until the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, that the federal government had the capacity and focus to enforce desegregation.

Two years ago in our nation's Capital—Washington DC—we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Rev. Martin Luther King's "I have a Dream" speech given at the steps of the Lincoln Memorial.

In that speech Dr. King spoke of a world where race would mean much less than the content of a person's character.

Martin Luther King said, "The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education."

HBCUs do not just educate—they build character.

The Bipartisan Congressional HBCU Caucus will create and explore legislation that will increase support for HBCUs, such as the Higher Education Act, America COMPETES, and Appropriations.

The Bipartisan Congressional HBCU Caucus will also work to connect HBCUs to funding opportunities that ensure schools have the resources needed to educate and prepare students for the global workforce.

My focus is to support and continue my work with Texas Southern University and other HBCUs by:

finding growth opportunities for HBCU students and graduates;

working with private industry to connect students to jobs, internships, and scholarships; and

opening up doors to HBCU students interested in coming to Capitol Hill.

Each Congressional Black Caucus member works to expose HBCU students to global experiences to learn about other cultures.

My office worked to assist students in my district in going on a trip to China—for many it was their first travel outside of the state of Texas.

That one experience transformed their lives—by expanding their horizon from being local to global.

JACOB FRESON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jacob Freson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Jacob Freson is a 12th grader at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jacob Freson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jacob Freson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING SOUTHWESTERN ENERGY UPON RECEIVING THE EMPLOYERS EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to help recognize Southwestern Energy (SWN) for receiving the Employers Excellence Award for Energy Efficiencies and Environmental Improvements from the Northeast Pennsylvania Manufacturers and Employers Association. This prestigious award is meant to honor businesses in northeastern Pennsylvania that have shown a commitment to providing energy-efficient solutions and environmental conservation. By continuing to harness domestic energy sources in the most efficient manner possible, while also preserving the environment for future generations to enjoy, SWN has provided my constituents with a superior quality of life that permeates all aspects of the community.

With over 80 years of experience in identifying and extracting domestic natural gas sources, SWN has helped lead the effort toward energy independence. This leadership and success continues to be dependent upon the dedication to their employees and to the communities in which they operate. Northeastern Pennsylvania has benefited tremendously from Southwestern Energy's commitment to environmentally conscious means of extracting our state's natural resources. I had the opportunity to meet with community leaders at the Tunkhannock, PA facility to witness firsthand the regional investment and economic impact of Southwestern Energy's projects in my district.

Launching their Energy Conserving Water (ECH2O) program in 2012, SWN pledged that for each gallon of fresh water used in their operations, they would replenish or offset an equivalent amount through conservation and innovation. In 2015, Southwestern Energy made significant progress toward their goal of achieving water neutrality in Pennsylvania. With the completion of the Fall Brook Acid Mine Drainage Treatment and Restoration Project, SWN has improved the water quality in the Susquehanna River throughout my district.

Mr. Speaker, Southwestern Energy's contributions to energy security and natural resource conservation in my district and state have been profound. Upon receiving the Employers Excellence Award for Energy Efficiencies and Environmental Improvements from the Northeast Pennsylvania Manufacturers and Employers Association, Southwestern Energy has affirmed their place among leaders in our communities. I look forward to witnessing the continued involvement of SWN in my district and state, and am confident that their contributions to my constituents will have a lasting impact.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD L. HANNA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Number 172 on S. 1890, I am not recorded because I was absent for personal reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye.

IN HONOR OF 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. ILLUMINATOR ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CATHEDRAL

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of St. Illuminator Armenian Apostolic Cathedral located in the district I represent in Manhattan, New York. It was the first Armenian church established in New York City.

After fleeing to the United States in the late 19th and early 20th century following the Hamidian Massacres and Armenian Genocide in the Ottoman Empire, the Armenians of New York City did not have their own church to worship in together. They held religious services in various churches, most of which were located in the neighborhood of the current cathedral. Purchasing a church was initially proposed in 1913. A successful fundraising effort allowed construction to begin for what was then known as the central cathedral of the Armenian Apostolic Church in 1915. The Cathedral officially opened its doors in 1916, but parishioners celebrated the Cathedral's centennial throughout 2015 at the same time as the centennial of the Armenian Genocide in Ottoman Turkey in 1915.

For over a century, St. Illuminator's Cathedral has played a significant role in advocating for Armenians in the U.S. and around the world. Many Genocide survivors found their refuge in the United States, entering the country through Ellis Island. St. Illuminator came to serve as shelter to many of them once they arrived. Today, there remains a vibrant congregation, inspiring their community through faith and service.

I extend my congratulations to the pastor, Rev. Fr. Mesrob Lakissian who has led the church for 10 years, the Board of Trustees, and all members and friends of St. Illuminator, and wish them many more years of success and service to the Armenian American community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the anniversary of St. Illuminator's Cathedral and its contributions to the Armenian American residents of Manhattan, Queens and Brooklyn as well as the larger Armenian American community in the United States.

RECOGNIZING THE TRI-COUNTY
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
UPON THE OCCASION OF
ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC) upon the occasion of its 50th Anniversary. By offering regional planning advice, technical consulting, and financial assistance, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission has worked to empower communities through long-term livability and vitality. TCRPC has exemplified an unwavering commitment to resolving regional issues facing my constituents in 103 municipalities of Cumberland, Dauphin, and Perry counties.

Founded in 1966 as a forum for information sharing, consensus building, and coordination among communities in central Pennsylvania, TCRPC has worked tirelessly to advance quality of life issues across the region. They continue to promote the area's long-term sustainability through resource protection and the adaptation of existing infrastructure to meet today's most pressing economic and social issues.

TCRPC's Regional Growth Management Plan stimulates community development and revitalization by supporting programs that integrate transportation, land use, and economic development efforts as well as environmental practices that protect air, land, and water resources. The Regional Growth Management Plan has contributed to lower energy costs for individual households, increased energy efficiencies, fostered greater availability of transportation options, opened more parks and community spaces, improved individual health, and heightened access to local food supplies.

Mr. Speaker, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission has remained committed to the vision that central Pennsylvania is stronger when we work together. After five decades of committed service, Pennsylvanians in my district and beyond owe a debt of gratitude for the selfless work provided by TCRPC. I wish to congratulate TCRPC on 50 years of meaningful community engagement, and look forward to witnessing firsthand the continued service provided by such a strategic and charitable organization.

HONORING THE CAREER OF
SISTER DENISE A. ROCHE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and legacy of service of Sister Denise A. Roche, GNSH, Ph.D. upon the occasion of her retirement as President of D'Youville College.

A Buffalo native, Sister Denise is a graduate of Holy Angels Academy and D'Youville College. She went on to earn a master's degree in sociology from Boston University and a doctorate at the University of Massachusetts. Prior to being named President of D'Youville

in 1979, she served as an instructor, acting chair, teaching assistant, assistant professor and associate dean at the college.

Sister Denise was named 14th President of D'Youville when she was just 36 years old, the youngest person ever to serve in that position. During her remarkable tenure lasting over 36 years, she has overseen 400 full-time employees and managed a \$50 million operating budget. Sister Denise led the college to triple its enrollment from 1153 in 1980 to more than 3100 in 2014, created major new academic offerings that attracted a significant number of new students, and achieved fiscal stability.

Under her leadership, the college endowment grew from \$1.2 million to \$34 million. During her presidency \$77 million was invested in the campus including a new library, three academic centers, gymnasium, apartment-style residence hall, athletic fields, and property and parking additions. These investments have improved on-campus life and helped stabilize the dynamic and diverse neighborhood in Buffalo's West Side surrounding the college.

Her strong belief in helping and encouraging all students has seen a multitude of success stories as former students come back to thank her for her faith in them and motivating them to succeed. She has supported "City As School," an alternative program for non-traditional high school students at D'Youville for more than a decade, resulting in young people reaching higher academic achievements and leading more productive lives.

To our community, Sister Denise is much more than president of the college. She is a consummate community leader whose advice and counsel is sought on a wide range of issues affecting the city of Buffalo. Her thoughtful and caring demeanor has endeared her to all whose lives she has touched.

Sister Denise has received many awards and accolades for her work at D'Youville and throughout Western New York, including Citizen of the Year by The Buffalo News in 1994, the Chancellor Charles P. Norton Medal from the University at Buffalo, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the WNY Hispanics and Friends Civic Association, and a Special Award presented to her by the National Conference of Christians and Jews. She is a member of the WNY Women's Hall of Fame, and both Canisius College and Niagara University have awarded her honorary degrees.

While a very grateful community extends deep appreciation for Sister Denise's extraordinary leadership at D'Youville College, her work is far from over as she was recently nominated by New York Governor Andrew Cuomo to serve as chair of the Niagara Frontier Transit Authority (NFTA). In this role, she will be responsible for the oversight of Erie and Niagara Counties' public transportation system, including the bus and rail systems, the Buffalo-Niagara International Airport and the Niagara Falls International Airport. As Chairwoman, Sister Denise will bring her decades of experience and expertise to the NFTA to continue serving the public.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor the life and distinguished career of this outstanding educator, leader and devoted Sister of the Grey Nuns, Sister Denise A. Roche. I ask that my colleagues join me in expressing our congratulations on an exemplary career and to commend her for her admirable work to enrich D'Youville

College and the Western New York community and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

COMMENDING CAPTAIN WILLIAM
KENNETH EARMAN ON HIS OUT-
STANDING MILITARY SERVICE

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Captain William Kenneth Earman on his outstanding and exemplary military service.

In 1942, Mr. Earman joined the Army Air Force Cadet Program in the immediate aftermath of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Like many Americans of the Greatest Generation, Mr. Earman put his life on hold to defend our country against the evils that threatened our convictions, ideals, and existence.

Upon graduating from bombardier school in Big Spring, Texas, as a Second Lieutenant, Mr. Earman was assigned to the Seventh Air Force, which introduced him to the Pacific Theatre. Mr. Earman flew over forty missions in the Central Pacific in a B-24 J bomber named "The Sunsetter." He and his crew received numerous commendations and awards for their valor, including four Air Medals and two Distinguished Flying Crosses.

After his time in combat had concluded, Mr. Earman was promoted to First Lieutenant and returned to Big Spring to instruct incoming Army Air Force cadets, a reflection of his exemplary performance and expertise as a bombardier and navigator. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Earman was promoted and served as Flight Commander of the Ready Reserve Airmen in Rockdale, Texas, where he would eventually be promoted to Captain.

In June of 1961, Captain Earman received an Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force after nearly twenty years of meritorious service. This would mark the end of Captain Earman's long and distinguished military career.

On May 6th and 7th, Captain Earman will be participating with other World War II veterans in the twenty-ninth Dallas/Fort Worth Honor Flight to our nation's capital, accompanied by his son, William Kenneth Earman, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great pleasure to recognize the service Captain Earman has given to this nation. I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to rise with me today in appreciation of Captain Earman's remarkable service and sacrifice.

RECOGNIZING MI WINDOWS AND
DOORS, LLC UPON RECEIVING
THE MANUFACTURERS EXCEL-
LENCE AWARD FOR COMMUNITY
INVOLVEMENT

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to help recognize MI Windows and Doors, LLC

(MIWD) upon receiving the Manufacturers Excellence Award for Community Involvement from the Northeast Pennsylvania Manufacturers and Employers Association. This prestigious award is intended to highlight the charitable commitment of companies in northeastern Pennsylvania that exemplify the balance between private enterprise and public engagement.

Backed by exemplary customer service and product quality, MI Windows and Doors is one of the nation's largest suppliers of vinyl and aluminum windows and doors. MIWD should be proud of their outreach efforts, and by taking personal responsibility in the communities where they manufacture, it's only natural that such success would follow. Through their company-connected non-profit, The MIWD Charitable Foundation, MIWD has been committed to donating both time and funding to numerous local organizations, emergency response teams, and families in need.

Building personal connections with members of the community has consistently been a hallmark of MIWD's outreach efforts. This past fall, MIWD hosted a Friends and Family Day at their Gratz, PA facility in which members of the community were able to spend time within the facility to gain a better understanding of the daily operations and company as a whole. Their support for our nation's veterans has been unwavering as well. By providing in-kind donations of windows for the mortgage-free homes built by Homes for our Troops, MIWD has helped provide severely-wounded, post 9/11 veterans and their families with safe and reliable shelter.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to recognize MI Windows and Doors, LLC as the recipient of the Manufacturers Excellence Award for Community Involvement from the Northeast Pennsylvania Manufacturers and Employers Association. With such pronounced principles and a dedication to community development that permeates all aspects of life in northeastern Pennsylvania, MIWD has come to embody the rewards that come from compassionate investments. I wish MI Windows and Doors, LLC all the best in their future endeavors, and am confident that they will continue to exemplify the positive relationship between a business and its community.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT
OF JOHN FOX SULLIVAN

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Fox Sullivan, who is retiring after four decades as the publisher of the National Journal.

Most in this chamber knows John as the powerful media executive who transformed the National Journal into one of Washington's most respected periodicals. I've had the pleasure of knowing John as my childhood friend from Carmel, California.

The Sullivan family moved next door to my family in Carmel during the 1950s. Thanks to our mothers' shared interest in politics, our two families quickly became friends. Johnny, as we called him back then, and I attended school together—from Carmel Sunset School

to Carmel High School. After graduating, he left to attend Yale University and Columbia Business School.

Following a five-year career at Newsweek, John joined the still relatively young National Journal in 1975, where he would go on to serve as Publisher, President and CEO. Under his leadership, the National Journal would change the face of Washington journalism.

Shortly after John joined the National Journal, I reconnected with him at the Democratic National Convention in New York City in 1976. I was attending as a delegate and John noticed my name on the press roster. When my old high school friend found me in the Madison Square Garden crowd, I just happened to be sitting next to Jane Fonda. We shared a good laugh when he thought Jane and I were there together.

After reconnecting at the convention, John and I managed to stay in touch. He and his wife, Beverly, would come and visit in Carmel. It was a joy to catch up on family news and to discuss politics. My father often joined those discussions and I believe he became the first subscriber of the National Journal on the West Coast.

When I first came to Washington, the Sullivans returned that hospitality. Anyone who has ever had the fortune of dining with John and Beverly walked away with fond memories. Dinner parties in their beautiful home are known to be filled with charming people engaged in the most interesting conversations.

History will remember the role their Georgetown rowhouse played in the leadership bid of the first woman to become Speaker of the House. John and Beverly always made their home available to anyone to discuss politics. One evening, I brought Representatives George Miller and NANCY PELOSI and a few members of Congress who had not yet agreed to support her leadership campaign. Thanks to that dinner, commitments were made that solidified her leadership bid that eventually led to her Speakership.

Being a respected leader in one Washington wasn't enough for John. After moving to "Little" Washington, John was elected mayor of the historic Virginia town in 2010. He easily won reelection in 2014 with 28 of the 29 votes cast. Who in this chamber can boast about receiving 97 percent of the votes cast? That's how much people like and respect John.

From our youth spent in Carmel to our friendship here in Washington, I have always admired the way John and Beverly celebrated the lives of others.

Mr. Speaker, it is only fitting on the day of John Fox Sullivan's much deserved retirement that we get to celebrate his life and all the good that has come from his service.

HONORING THE CAREER OF JOAN
EASTLUND

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Joan Eastlund on her retirement from Black Hawk College in Moline, Illinois. For 37 years, Joan has demonstrated a strong commitment to education and activism, influencing the lives of thousands of students

throughout her career. In fact, Joan has served as a mentor and inspiration to several staff members in my office.

Joan began her distinguished career at Black Hawk College in 1979, where she helped former manufacturing workers train for new careers. As a professor of Political Science, Joan introduced thousands of students to politics, inspiring many to pursue careers in the field themselves. To many students, Joan has been far more than just an educator, but also an incredible mentor and role model. She has shown her students the importance of fulfilling their civic duties, serving their communities, and working to advance causes that truly better our country.

In addition to her work as a professor, Joan has been an active figure in the fight for women's equality. She is a founding member of the Quad-Cities chapter of the National Organization for Women, a group dedicated to supporting women's rights all across the United States. During the 1970s and 1980s, Joan joined thousands of other activists as they marched to support landmark legislation to advance women's rights and equality.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Joan Eastlund for her commitment to inspiring the next generation of students and women in our region. Joan has undoubtedly made a difference in the lives of her students, and her retirement will be a significant loss to Black Hawk College.

I congratulate her on a well-earned retirement and wish her the very best in her future endeavors.

COMMENDING JOSEPH SCIACCA

HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Staten Island resident Joseph Sciacca for his positive contributions to our community. Joseph was born in the Little Italy neighborhood and moved to Staten Island at the age of four. He grew up in Grant City and graduated from Tottenville High School in 1937. Joseph began a business career in his early adult years, but had to put this on hold when he was drafted into the military in 1941, serving until 1946. Joseph has been an outstanding model of success and humility in our community.

In the private sector, Joseph had a long career as a sales executive, but has remained involved with other causes throughout his life. In the mid-1960s, then-Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller named him a deputy commissioner of the State Athletic Commission, which issued regulations on boxing matches in New York. Later on, Joseph was named as a research assistant to the Speaker of the New York State Assembly.

Joseph has shown support for health care throughout his life. He is a former trustee of and currently on the advisory board for Bayley Seton Hospital. Additionally, Joseph has been co-chairperson of the Seton Society, the hospital's fund-raising arm. Joseph is also a trustee of St. Elizabeth Ann's Hospital Care and Rehabilitation Center and is an honorary member of the American Cancer Society's Staten Island Chapter, as well as the Staten Island Chapter of the American Red Cross.

The organization that has remained closest with him throughout the years is the Staten Island Council of the Boy Scouts of America, of which he is the former president and currently a member of its executive committee. His affiliation with the Boy Scouts dates back to his

son's youth. His unrelenting passion for helping children on Staten Island has been inspiring, as Joseph is a man who stresses the greater good over the individual.

Mr. Speaker, Joseph Sciacca's dedication to selflessly helping others has been remarkable.

I thank him for all of his hard work and I am proud to honor this great man who has been such a strong influence on the residents of Staten Island.